

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 ACDA-07 SAJ-01 AF-08 /089 W

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R 061658Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2682

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 19643

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, EEC, SZ, AU, FR

SUBJECT: REISKY VISIT TO FRANCE

REF: (A) PARIS 18619, (B) VIENNA 5255, (C) PARIS 16619

1. SUMMARY: IN SPITE OF MOMENT OF SLIGHT ATMOSPHERIC
TURBULENCE KREISKY VISIT TO FRANCE WAS GENUINE SUCCESS
WHICH SHOULD AMELIORATE STAGNATION IN FRANCO-AUSTRIAN
RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. APART FROM WHAT QUAI DIRECTOR FOR CENTRAL EUROPEAN
AFFAIRS PLAISANT CALLED LE MONDE'S "USUAL SNIDE
COMMENTS" IN FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL JULY 1, QUAI CONSIDERS
THAT AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY'S VISIT TO FRANCE WAS
SUCCESS AND BROKE LONG DRY SPELL IN FRANCO-AUSTRIAN
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RELATIONS.

3. LE MONDE'S BARBS WERE AIMED PARTLY AT GOF'S PAST AIRS OF CONDESCENSION TOWARDS KREISKY'S INITIATIVES ON INTERNATIONAL SCENE, WHICH LE MONDE TENDED TO RELATE TO CERTAIN EXTENT TO KREISKY'S SOCIALIST ALLEGIANCE. THEY WERE MORE JUSTIFIABLY DIRECTED AT CHIRAC'S MALADROITNESS IN COMPLAINING IN FORMAL TOAST THAT TEACHING OF FRENCH IN AUSTRIA WAS NOT COMMENSURATE TO FRENCH EFFORTS IN PROPAGATING GERMAN. KREISKY FOR HIS PART SPOKE OF LAGGING FOREIGN TRADE. THESE TOUCHES OF PEEVISHNESS WERE OVERSHADOWED, HOWEVER, BY SINCERE EXPRESSIONS OF FULL SATISFACTION OVER COURSE AND RESULTS OF VISIT BY BOTH SIDES.

4. FOR BACKGROUND, PLAISANT EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD ARGUED FOR AUSTRIAN VISIT THROUGH SEVERAL RECENT LEAN YEARS, DURING WHICH HE FOUND THAT "IT WAS EASIER TO ARRANGE EUROPEAN SUMMIT THAN A VISIT BY FRIENDLY, SMALL EUROPEAN NEIGHBOR." IN FACT, PLAISANT SAID KREISKY NOW PROVED A CONSIDERABLE HIT. IN SPITE OF DIFFERENCES IN AGE, BACKGROUND, EDUCATION, POLITICAL ORIENTATION AND THE RATHER FRANK PUBLIC EXCHANGES ALREADY MENTIONED, HE AND CHIRAC HIT IT OFF WELL. MEETINGS WITH GISCARD WERE ALSO PERSONAL SUCCESS. RESULT IS THAT NOT ONLY CHIRAC, BUT GISCARD AGREED TO VISIT VIENNA. ACCORDING TO PLAISANT, GISCARD WILL VISIT VIENNA EARLY IN 1977 WHILE CHIRAC DATE NOT YET SET. AFP REPORTS ON CONTRARY THAT CHIRAC VISIT SET FOR FEBRUARY 1977, BUT MAKES NO MENTION GISCARD VISIT. WE WILL TRY TO CONFIRM CORRECT SEQUENCE IN DUE COURSE.

5. AS FOR SUBSTANCE, PLAISANT CONFIRMED THAT KREISKY PUSHED HIS TWO MAIN IDEAS (A) OF PRE-BELGRADE CSCE SUMMIT ON OCCASION OF INAUGURATION OF NEW PALACE OF EUROPE

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AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 19643

IN STRASBOURG, AND (B) OF "MARSHALL PLAN" FOR AFRICA. ALTHOUGH KREISKY REPEATEDLY TOLD FRENCH PRESS DURING VISIT OF GISCARD'S "INTEREST" IN FORMER IDEA, PLAISANT SAID THAT "INTEREST" SHOULD BE "VERY ABSTRACTLY DEFINED." IN FACT, QUAI SAYS FIRST IDEA, AS CONCEIVED, IS NON-STARTER, SINCE FRENCH ARE NOT INTERESTED IN CREATING NEW MULTILATERAL FRAMEWORK FOR CSCE COORDINATION TO FURTHER FRUSTRATE THEIR OWN PREFERENCE FOR BILATERAL APPROACH. ON OTHER HAND GOF IS INTERESTED IN AND SYMPATHETIC TO KREISKY'S THOUGHTS ON AN AFRICAN MARSHALL PLAN WHICH RELATE WELL TO FRENCH IDEAS ON THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE.

6. DISCUSSIONS ALSO FOCUSSED ON AUSTRIA'S HOPES TO
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GET MORE INTO THE EUROPEAN SWIM. IN THIS CONNECTION, PLAISANT SAID GOF HAD AGREED TO HELP VIENNA WITH IMPROVED BILATERAL CONTACTS AND CERTAIN EFFORTS TO "RAISE LEVEL" OF MEETINGS IN STRASBOURG.

7. CSCE AS SUCH WAS NOT DISCUSSED IN DETAIL, ALTHOUGH PLAISANT NOTED THAT, AFTER VISIT, FRENCH ARE LESS CONCERNED OVER THE ALLEGED AUSTRIAN "ACTIVISM" HE HAD REFERRED TO IN PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS (REF A AND C). OTHER TOPICS OF TOUR D'HORIZON INCLUDED STATE OF DETENTE AND MIDDLE EAST.

8. BULK OF BILATERAL CONVERSATIONS WERE CENTERED ON REINVIGORATING ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL RELATIONS. FRENCH AGREED TO TRY TO WORK TOWARD DOUBLING OF THEIR TRADE, TO INCLUDE AUSTRIANS IN THIRD-COUNTRY COMMERCIAL EFFORTS AND TO INCREASE INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENTS AND JOINT VENTURES. KREISKY ALSO AGREED TO MAKE RENEWED EFFORT TO TEACH MORE FRENCH IN AUSTRIA. PLAISANT SAID DETAILS ARE ACCURATELY REFLECTED IN COMMUNIQUE, WHICH WE ASSUME AVAILABLE VIENNA.

9. FINALLY, KREISKY BRIEFLY INTERRUPTED HIS "OFFICIAL" VISIT FOR INFORMAL AND FRIENDLY CHAT WITH FRANCOIS MITTERRAND.
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